

R E M A R K S

Careful review and examination of the subject application are noted and appreciated. Applicants thank Examiner McLean-Mayo for the indications of (i) allowed matter in claims 1-3, 9-12 and 21-25 and (ii) allowable matter in claims 29 and 30.

SUPPORT FOR THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Support for the claim amendments may be found in claim 26. Thus, no new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

The rejection of claims 26, 27, 28 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Blumenau '037 has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

The allowable matter of claim 29 has been incorporated into claim 26. Claims 27 and 29 have been cancelled. Claim 31 depends from claim 26, which is now believed to be allowable. As such, claims 26 and 31 are fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

The rejection of claims 32 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blumenau has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

Claim 32 has been cancelled. Claim 33 depends from claim 26, which is now believed to be allowable. As such, claim 33 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

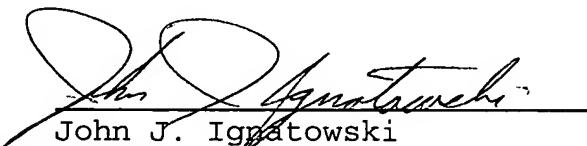
Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative at 586-498-0670 should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit Account No. 12-2252.

Respectfully submitted,

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